



## December Birthdays

1 – Linda Kellogg  
2 – Peter Lovely  
3 – Yvonne Gower  
4 – Sue Dwyer  
6 – Norma Jarvis  
9 – Vanessa Gagnon  
11 – Norma Jones  
14 – Richard Coon  
15 – Joel Gagnon  
16 – John Lundy  
18 – Bill Perry  
23- -John Gouthier  
27 – Dick Palmer  
31 - Marissa Fedorich  
31 – Darlene Grant

## Anniversaries

12 – James and Carol Hague  
28 – Sam and Ruth Francis



Take Note! Our Faithful Kitchen Committee is asking for donations of Canned green beans and potatoes, for the free Christmas Community dinner. If there is more donated than can be used for that day, we will give them to the Marilyn's Pantry Patrons! 😊 Traditional Holiday meal will be served between 1pm and 3pm here at Winsted United Methodist Church. Yummy!



## THE BAT

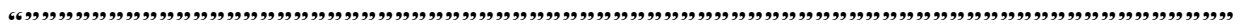
How do these months fly by so quickly? I can't believe it is almost time for Christmas and I haven't even started shopping. That's because I was so full of turkey (you might say stuffed) that I slept more than I should. Thanks to Candy, Jo Elin, Stephanie, the church smelled wonderful for 2 days and the wait was worth it - the meal was delicious. There were 30 people here for the dinner and then Candy and Jo Elin took take outs to shut ins and the workers at Cumberland Farms. And thanks, needs to go out to Patty and her crew for setting up the tables. Everything looked pretty, smelled good and tasted good. And speaking of things looking pretty, Sandy did an awesome job with decorating the church, everywhere you looked there was something of a fall theme. Darlene flew in and decorated the altar with her arrangement of harvest colors and foods (something that her Mom., June Eid, did every year) I watched her pull things out and put them on the altar and when she got done it was beautiful. Once again, everyone rallied to pay respect to Bob Hope and then do his reception. The Bat will miss Bob. John and Cliff spent a morning hauling wood downstairs for the kitchen and John has been outside putting sand on the sidewalk. I flew out to watch and then a couple of weeks later watched him sweep the sand up. Is this a human game? Seems silly to me to spread the sand and then sweep it up! Darlene flew in again and changed the wreath from Fall to Winter. Sandy and Mark T. Were here one evening and decorated the Sanctuary. I hung around and watched them - they do good work. It's beginning to look like Christmas! Corky runs in and out of here doing all sorts of things, he and John carried more wood downstairs - what are they building an ark? Corky comes in and changes the signs outside and he and Barbara H. Went shopping for flooring. Sue B. Comes in every week and makes her way to the office to do checks. And just when I thought it was the end of the month and everything would slow down (including me), I was so wrong. Pastor Adeline has been under the weather most of the month. She missed the last Sunday and Mark T., John, and Mary Pat all jumped in to save the day. Mark took over the service, John added took care of ushering, greeting and lighting candles and Mary Pat picked out hymns to sing. You guys all work so well together. The next week was crazy and my wings are exhausted. One day Gail and Issy were at the church and while Issy was "slaving" in the office, Gail was running up to the balcony hauling down boxes and tubs for the Fair and then hauled boxes up from downstairs and arranged the tables and folded all the chairs. The next day in came John, Issy and Norma Jarvis and Norma got the tables covered and started putting out items, John was busy bringing up and down more boxes and Issy was "slaving" in the office. Then Pastor Adeline came in with things for the fair, next came in Sue B., Gail, Arlene, Norma Jones and Bonny. Like a well-tuned machine, everyone worked and got so much done. But I've got to tell you that my head was spinning and my wings were shaking from all the flying back and forth and keeping track of everyone. From what I have heard, December is going to be busy, busy, busy, so I'm heading off to my belfry to get some much-needed rest.

The Bat

Church Council

Our November meeting was spent mostly talking about the upcoming fair and discussing the events that will be happening the month of December. The Fair on 12/1, 12/2 is the beginning of Advent, 12/9 - 12/14 the Salvation Army will be setting up their toy store, 12/15 the toy store will be opened, and we will have a wrapping station, hot cocoa and snacks for the people coming in, 12/16 will be Caroling with snacks afterwards at the Parsonage. 12/21 will be a Blue Christmas Service at 7 pm, 12/24 will be Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm, 12/25 will be the Free Community Christmas Dinner from 1-3pm and that is on top of all the normal things that go on! To make room for Caroling, Church Council has been changed to 12/30. Finances were discussed, and it was brought up again that we need a Special Events Committee to help raise money. If anyone would be interested in being involved, please contact me. Progress on the kitchen was discussed and the dishwasher has been removed and bought for \$125.00. Corky and Stephanie have been working on the floor; and it was decided that the kitchen committee should be the ones to make decisions as to what they want. Since they are the ones that will be working in the kitchen and they are suppling the money, they should make the decisions. Please remember that anyone can attend a Church Council meeting and talk about anything or raise questions.

Issy Skilton



Scrip

I got some nice orders this past month and we made a profit of \$81.00. I have been asked if I was going to do another order before Christmas, so I am going to. I'll be taking order on 12/9 and that will be the last order for 2018. I will send the order in plenty of time to get the cards before Christmas. Thanks to all of you who have participated in this money raiser. Issy Skilton

From the Pastor's Study,

This year we will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the debut of the beloved hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night" Our Worship will integrate the Lyrics, tune and ultimately the entire song in honor of this world famous hymn.

This classic hymn made its debut on Christmas Eve, 1818 at the St. Nicholas Chapel in Oberndorf bei Salzburg, Austria. The melody by Franz Gruber is instantly recognizable from the first few notes, and the original text by Joseph Mohr has been translated from the original German into over 140 languages. In 1914, just four years short of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Silent Night" the soldiers fighting World War I along the western front held a ceasefire in some areas out of mutual respect for the Holiday. Members from opposing sides exchanged gifts and stories with one another, played games, and sang Christmas carols together, including the beloved hymn "Silent Night," Today, churches all over the world gather together each year on Christmas Eve to light candles, sing "Silent Night," and participate in the timeless tradition of inimitable power. Marcia McFee, Worship Design Studio

This story is a poignant example of how opposing sides of an issue can be overcome with the help of the Holy Spirit. As Christians we must be the "Calm and Bright" light of Christ in the World. We live with so much diversity, as I said last month abject hate and fear. It is no wonder that our calm and bright inner light of Jesus is hard to see. It is easy to shrink away when hurtful and hard words are being shared. It is also so much easier in this age to fight with people and spread hate and fear on the internet and through social media anonymously spewing the darkness of our fears.

On the first Sunday of Advent at our Service I challenged the congregation and now you who are reading this to find someone with whom you are somewhat comfortable with to explore your differences, whatever they might be. Just get to know each other. Go out have a cup of coffee and get to know someone you might not normally share time with a bit better. It might go a long way toward peace in this crazy, broken, scary world. This is the work that needs to be done. This is where the Peace, Hope, Love and Joy of the season can be found. I pray you discover these gifts through this Holy Season of Advent.

O baby Jesus, our hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. Sleep in heavenly Peace.

Pastor Adeline Hazzard <><

#### Tid – Bits

- ✓ Remember the first monthly Love offering is designated for missions.
- ✓ Christmas Caroling and Open House at the Parsonage December 16, 2018
- ✓ Come join the fun wrapping presents on December 15<sup>th</sup> all day, in support of the Christmas toy drive with the Salvation Army.
- ✓ Mark your calendar for the Blue Christmas Service December 21, 2018 7pm
- ✓ Donations of Potatoes and Canned Green beans would be appreciated for the Free Christmas meal.

### **Christmas Dinner**

Our Christmas Dinner will be free to anyone who would like to come and have a delicious Holiday meal.

The meal will be served between 1pm and 3pm on Christmas Day.

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**The income for the month of October as follows**

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**Deposits \$ 5,416.95**

**Expenses \$ 6,389.85**

**-\$ 972.90 in arrears**

### *Stewardship Corner*

. What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works.

Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself. Be generous. Give to the poor. Get yourselves a bank that can't go bankrupt, a bank in heaven far from bank robbers, safe from embezzlers, a bank you can bank on .

It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being. Luke 12:29-34 ( Message translation)